FINAL FRCA TEACHING

SAQs / RCoA report/Advice

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LEARNING OUTCOMES

INTENDED:
• To make you aware of SAQ report from RCoA
• To refresh your cardiothoracic subspecialty knowledge.
• Gist of assessment, conduct of anaesthetic, CPB & OLA.
• Improve SAQ answering skill through exploring few SAQs
• Stimulate you to pursue the topics & subject more.

UNINTENDED:
• To gain mastery over cardiothoracic anaesthesia.
• Generation of any disinterest in sub specialty.
PLAN

A. An Overview of SAQ Report by RCoA
B. Introduction to cardiac anaesthesia
   • Cardiac SAQ 1
   • Cardiac SAQ 2
   • Cardiac SAQ 3
   • Cardiac SAQ 4
C. Introduction to Thoracic anaesthesia
   • Thoracic SAQ 1
RCoA SAQ Report - An Overview
SAQ EXAM - WHAT IS IT FOR?

• **Examines:**
  Knowledge

• **Subject:**
  Basic & Intermediate sections - training curriculum specified by the Royal College of Anaesthetists.
MILLER’S PRISM OF CLINICAL COMPETENCE (aka Miller's Pyramid)

it is only in the "does" triangle that the doctor truly performs

Performance Integrated Into Practice
eg through direct observation, workplace based assessment

Demonstration of Learning
eg via simulations, OSCEs

Interpretation/Application
eg through case presentations, essays, extended matching type MCQs

Fact Gathering
eg traditional true/false MCQs

KNOWS

KNOWS HOW

SHOWS

DOES

KNOWLEDGE

SKILLS

ATTITUDES

Adapted by Drs. R. Mehay & R. Burns, UK (Jan 2009)
HOW DOES IT DO THAT?

• Testing ability to answer SAQs in limited time.
• Tests judgment & ability to prioritize information.
• Does not test simple factual recall.
• Requires appropriate knowledge & experience of the subject matter.
QUESTIONS & DATABASE

• Reflect breadth of knowledge required
• Database: Updated/Modified

New knowledge.
Current National Practice.
Recommendations from relevant governing authorities.

• Should not place faith in “question spotting”
• Breadth of syllabus means Topics are revisited infrequently

PERI EXAM PROCESS:
• Paper Setting Day – Pre Exam
• Standard Setting Day – Post Exam (Angoff Referencing)
SAQS & MODEL ANSWERS

• Set rules for question govern both the
  Over all structure of the Question & Content of the Model Answer template

• Questions mapped to specific section of syllabus
• Marks available for each section of SAQ are clearly indicated

• Objective & reproducible marking process
  key facts in the answer template are bullet pointed and assigned relevant marks

• Exhaustive editing & peer review of SAQs before use
SAQ ALLOCATION

• Mandatory Units: 6 SAQs
• General Duties: 4 SAQs
• Optional Units: 2 SAQs

“Candidates who prepare detail revision notes for mandatory units will be @ advantage”
RECAP OF TRAINING UNITS!

• **MANDATORY UNITS:**
  1. Neurosurgery, Neuroradiology, Neurocritical care
  2. Cardiothoracic surgery
  3. ICM
  4. Obstetrics
  5. Pediatrics
  6. Pain medicine

• **GENERAL:** Airway/ ENT/Ortho/Trauma/Gyn.....

• **OPTIONAL:** Ophthalmic/Plastics/Vascular/Adv..
# LEVEL OF SAQS / ANGOFF REFERENCING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Pass mark</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 / 12</td>
<td>Hard/ Difficult</td>
<td>10 - 11 / 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 - 8 / 12</td>
<td>Moderate</td>
<td>12 – 13 / 20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 - 2 / 12</td>
<td>Easy</td>
<td>14 / 20 or &gt;</td>
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COMMON ISSUES WITH CANDIDATES’ ANSWERS

• Failing to answer the question asked
• Poor weighting of answers
• General & Superficial answers instead of Specific.
• Illegible handwriting: No Bullet points/tables
REASONS & SUGGESTIONS

• Read question thoroughly  
• Know specified syllabus  
• Lack of knowledge  
• Practical Inexperienced  

• Prepare detailed notes on mandatory units  
• Short taster sessions in mandatory units  
• Schools to undertake specific teaching/fill gaps
MY VIEW / SUGGESTION

- Check syllabus Mandatory units - Revision cards key areas.
- WPA – Think of possible practice SAQs.
- Pre / Post WPA – Look up relevant literature.
- Check BJA Education / e-LA / Guidelines - Professional bodies.
- Journals - Advance access before exams.

- While answering, Match Weighting & Bullet points.
- Use Bullet Points / Tables.
- Consider moving on & revisit partially answered SAQs
- DO NOT LEAVE OUT ANY SAQ UNANSWERED.

Read RCoA reports on SAQ Papers.

CHECK THIS OUT............. http://www.nischoolofanaesthesia-finalfrca.org.uk/